Reply of Government.—This is a matter to be represented to the survey authorities at the time of survey and settlement.

SUBJECT No. 126.

Grant of new building sites.

Messrs. G. Tirunarana Iengar, Venkataramaiya and Padmarajaiya, Channarayapatna Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—As per Village Sanitation Rules insanitary buildings are removed and new ones constructed on new sites. For this purpose private holdings are acquired on payment of compensation. Though the lands so acquired are valuable, compensation paid therefor is generally small. The same lands are given out again for building purposes at not less than six pies a square yard which comes to Rs. 150 an acre. Compensation also may be paid at that rate or sites of the same dimension as were acquired given to the person concerned and only the excess thereof sold.

In fixing the compensation the Amildar selects panchayatdars, who will state as low an amount as possible as the price of the land. The owner of such land should therefore be given the option of nominating a similar number of panchayatdars. Poor people are unable to take the formalities required to have the award revised. Deputy Commissioners may therefore be required to give liberal compensation.

Reply of Government.—The Land Acquisition Regulation prescribes a procedure for the valuation of the lands, which is to be determined by the evidence. The panchayatdars are not arbitrators. They are simply called for the purpose of assisting in fixing the value of the land. There is nothing to prevent the owner of the land from adducing his own evidence of the real value of the land. If he is not satisfied with the value offered, he has a right of appeal. This is not a matter for any executive order of Government.

SUBJECT No. 127.

Appropriation of suitable lands required for extending populous villages.

Mr. V. Raghavachar, Advocate, Nanjangud Taluk.
Mr. Ramanuja Iyengar, Gubbi Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—There are at present no building sites available in several thickly populated villages. It is prayed that in the case of such villages suitable lands be newly set apart for extending the old village sites. When the villagers want to extend the village or new persons desire to settle, they cannot get proper sites. It takes two or three years before an application is disposed of and thus the extension of villages is impeded. In every important village, land should be selected and set apart for such a purpose. As long as no application is received, the land may be given out temporarily for cultivation.

Reply of Government.—One of the tests of the efficiency of local executive officers is their capacity to induce villagers to remove from their insanitary surround-